

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed January 31, 2005. Claims 1-17 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, Claims 1, 13, 16 and 17 have been amended. No new matter or issues are believed to be introduced by this amendment. In view of the amendments above and the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8-11, 13, 14, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0011923 (hereinafter Cunningham).

Applicant's attorney, Michael A. Scaturro, wishes to thank Examiner Sorrell for the courteous oral interview which was conducted on April 27, 2005. As discussed and agreed at the interview, wherein the Examiner stated that independent Claim 7, in its present form, overcomes the 102 rejection and proposed changes to the language of claim 1, discussed in the interview would be acceptable and would overcome the 102 rejection upon submission of a formal response. As discussed and agreed at the interview, Cunningham does not disclose or suggest the module adopting the identity information from the appliance. In particular, the Cunningham patent discloses a PLC/wireless bridge that only interfaces the appliance to the network but does not adopt the identity information. Although not discussed during the interview, Claims 13, 16-17 have been amended in a manner similar to that of Claim 1. Support for the amendments can be found throughout Applicants' specification and in the figures.

It is respectfully submitted that at least the limitations and/or features of independent Claims 1, 7, 13, 16 and 17 are believed to be patentably distinct over Cunningham. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested and allowance of claims 1, 7, 13, 16 and 17 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6, 8-11 and 14-15 depend from independent Claims 1, 7 and 13, respectively and therefore contain the limitations of Claims 1, 7 and 13 and are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons given for Claims 1, 7 and 13 above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and allowance of Claims 2-6, 8-11 and 14-15 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Dependent Claims 4 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cunningham in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,054,846 (hereinafter Castleman).

Claims 4 and 15 depend from Claims 1 and 13, respectively, and therefore includes the limitations of Claims 1 and 13, respectively. Accordingly, for the same reasons given above for Claims 1 and 13, Claims 4 and 15 are believed to contain patentable subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections with respect to Claims 4 and 15 and allowance of Claims 4 and 15 is respectfully requested.

Dependent Claims 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cunningham in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,281,784 (hereinafter Redgate).

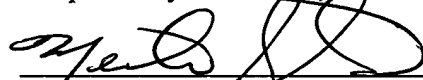
Claims 6 and 12 depend from Claims 1 and 7, respectively, and therefore includes the limitations of Claims 1 and 7, respectively. Accordingly, for the same reasons given above for Claims 1 and 7, Claims 6 and 12 are believed to contain patentable subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections with respect to Claims 6 and 12 and allowance of Claims 6 and 12 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims presently pending in the application, namely, Claims 1-17 are believed to be in condition for allowance and patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Dicron Halajian, Esq., Intellectual Property Counsel, Philips Electronics North America, at 914-333-9607.

Respectfully submitted,



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